

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for reducing steam swirl in a steam turbine. A plurality of seal segments (14) are circumferentially juxtaposed to form a seal ring (12) encircling the turbine shaft (10), each seal segment (14) supporting a plurality of circumferentially disposed annular seal fins (20) to limit axial steam flow along the shaft (10). A plurality of flow dams (40) are disposed within grooves (42) defined in the plurality of seal fins (20) and seal segments (14) for limiting circumferential steam flow and thereby reducing rotor instability.